Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original Dpdated	☐ Corrected	Supplemental				
LRB Number 07-0961/1	Introduction N	umber SB-066				
Description The purchase of health care coverage through the Group Insurance Board by individuals who are engaged in the business of farming, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Reve	rease Existing to	crease Costs - May be possible absorb within agency's budget Yes No ecrease Costs				
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory 2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Districts 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected Towns Village Cities Counties Others School WTCS Districts						
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives ETF 3/15/2007

LRB Number	07-0961/1	Introduction Number	SB-066	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
The purchase of health care coverage through the Group Insurance Board by individuals who are engaged						
in the business of farming, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill would allow any state resident who is engaged in the business of farming (including individuals employed by a farm business) to receive coverage under any health plan offered to state employees. Individuals electing coverage would be required to pay the entire premium. The bill authorizes DETF to establish by rule pre-existing condition exclusions for individuals electing coverage. Finally, the bill requires that individual electing coverage must provide proof to DETF that they have been covered by a health insurance plan or policy for any period time during the 6 months prior to electing coverage under the state plan.

The actuary notes that claims experience is 50% higher due to age alone. There are approximately 70,000 farmers in this state and while some are un-insurable, many would be able to obtain some kind of insurance if they wish, in order to then qualify for the state insurance. For this estimate, based on updated information provided by the consulting actuary, DETF is assuming that between 16,500 and 50,000 individuals would elect coverage. The pre-existing conditions provision mitigates some of the effect of adverse selection. In total, actuary estimates that the combined negative effect of the age and health status, combined with the positive effect of the pre-existing conditions and prior insurance clause result in the average farmer entering the program to be a thirty-five percent greater risk than the average state employee. Given the enrollment estimates above, this results in additional cost to the state program between \$33,950,000 and \$101,850,000 (this is the increased cost to cover the current state employees due to the assumption of the additional risk is not the cost of premiums that would be paid by individual farmers).

Administrative costs associated with billing administration, commission administration (this estimate assumes that individuals will purchased coverage via private insurance agents), and marketing are estimated to add up to an additional 2% to the total premium costs or \$16,140,000.

No estimate is included for any costs that may be incurred in determining and maintaining status as a taxqualified plan under federal law (currently the plan qualifies as a government plan under federal law) as that is beyond of the scope of this estimate.

In addition, DETF estimates that one-time implementation costs would be approximately \$54,600 SEG (information technology system modifications and process modifications) and require 1.0 SEG FTE. Ongoing annual administrative costs would be approximately \$18,200 SEG (enrollment processing) and would require the addition of .35 SEG FTE. These costs assume that the DETF will only process the initial enrollment forms and verify prior insurance coverage and that the remaining administrative tasks will be done by private insurance agents and health plans.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2007 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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